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SUPPLEMENT

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EVALUATION OF SOURCE

EVALUATION OF CONCEPTS

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1. The Korean Independence Party (KIP) in Manchuria, in an effort to show the Chinese Nationalist authorities that the KIP could organize a fighting force, announced in late 1945 and early 1947 that all young Koreans who were patriotic and wanted to aid Korea should join in forming an army. In January 1947 the KIP sent agent-recruiting officers into Korea. As a result of the efforts of these recruiting officers, about sixty Koreans came to Antung as volunteers to join the army which the KIP intended to organize.
2. With these sixty volunteers as a talking point, KIM Hak-kyu (金學奎) and PAK Yong-chun (朴英俊), KIP leaders, then approached the Chinese Nationalists to form a Korean army to "protect Koreans in Manchuria." KIM and PAK were both friends of YANG Fu-t'ang (楊馥堂), a Chinese lieutenant colonel in the President's Northeast Field Headquarters (now NEPH). YANG helped KIM and PAK organize the Korean army which became known as the Korean Democratic Self Defense Army in the Chang-Yen Area (長延區民主自衛軍) (north of Mukden). This army is now usually called the Korean Self Defense Army (KSDA).
3. KIM and PAK, reportedly followers of CH'EN Li-fu and his CC Clique, are not generally liked by Koreans in Manchuria and in Mukden in particular. KIM and PAK, therefore, had YANG appoint the officers for the KSDA in the name of General HSIUNG Shih-hui. At first the Koreans appointed as commanding officers of the proposed units did not accept their new positions; they knew that this proposed Korean army was influenced and controlled by the Korean Independence Party headed by KIM and PAK whom the appointees do not like. Finally, however, the officers appointed had to accept because of pressure from the Chinese Nationalists, the general Sino-Korean military and political situation in Manchuria, and because there were no other Koreans except those appointed who could capably command the units proposed. Of those Koreans appointed as officers, only YI Paek-kón (李白建) did not accept; he left Mukden on 25 August 1947 for South Korea.
4. At the beginning, the various units of the KSDA were called platoons. However, these units soon became known as battalions. During the first two weeks in July 1947 there was considerable contention between the KIP (and the KRG, [redacted]) and the Chinese Nationalists. The Korean groups wanted the army to be an autonomous body under the supervision of a Korean. In early July 1947 the Nationalists

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appointed general KIM Un-ch'ung (金恩忠), a general in the Chinese Nationalist Army of Korean parentage, to be the commanding officer. Further differences of opinion occurred because General KIM wanted to incorporate 286 Korean Communist prisoners captured on the Changchun front into the KSDA. General KIM left for Nanking to secure permission for this move, but has not returned to Mukden. From this time on the Ministry of National Defense took charge of organizing the KSDA.

5. The present organization of the KSDA is as follows:

Commanding Officer: YANG Fu-t'ang

Vice Commander: PAK Yong-chun

Battalion Commanders:

- 1 Battalion - YUN Il-p'a (尹一波)
- 2 Battalion - CH'OE Hyok-chu (崔赫宙)
- 3 Battalion - KIM Nang (金朗) also known as KIM Yang (金亮) and KIM Myong (金明)
- 4 Battalion - KIM So-nak (金世洛)

6. Another battalion under YI Paek-kun was originally planned; however, YI refused the position. MUH Hak-pin (文學彬) was then appointed; however, he was discharged by PAK Yong-chun and a Chinese (name unknown) was appointed. By 27 September 1947 no mention was made of this unit; it may have been dissolved and incorporated into the other four battalions.
7. On 24 July 1947 there were 567 officers and men in the KSDA. The army is divided: one part is at Ming Lien Chieh (明廉街) and the other, at Ch'ung Li Chieh (崇禮街), two districts in the western section of Mukden City.
8. Since its formation, the KSDA has accomplished nothing of importance. The army has only seven rifles donated by the Chinese Nationalists for the use of sentries and ten pistols belonging to the Korean officers for their private use.
9. The KSDA is directly controlled by the Northeast Pacification Headquarters. On 9 July 1947 there were 412 Koreans being trained by the Nationalists in Mukden. KIM Nang, Commander of the 3 Battalion, has been placed in charge of an officers' training camp at Ta Yuan Chieh (大元街), a former seminary building in Mukden. Of the 412 Koreans being trained, sixty are in KIM Nang's camp. Upon completion of their training, the sixty Koreans will become officers in the four battalions of the KSDA. KIM Nang is also in charge of the training of seventeen Korean Communist prisoners who will be placed in the KSDA upon the completion of their training.

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